Panel to Probe IA Role in Chile

By Laurence Stern' Washington Post Staff Writer

of covert U.S. political intervention in Chile, the Senate voted unanimously yesterday to investigate the matter.

The action was taken in a climate of rising pressure on Capitol Hill for tighter congressional control over oper-Senate Foreign gence Agency.

ted contempt of Congress in to informed sources. sworn testimony on the U.S. secking to undermine his gov-

Foreign Affairs Committee, said he would take up the observation that "this is our national subcommittee, said terday, said he found the Pres-Chile issue this week with the one chance to get oversight of the CIA and we're going to grab it."

Traditionally the CIA has mendations. reported to oversight subcommittees comprised of the the White House and State in control of foreign intelli-House and Senate Armed Department still were unable gence operations. Services committees. Members to claborate on the basis for of both oversight panels have President Ford's assertion at about the existence of opposisaid in the past week that they his Monday night press con- tion elements and the preserwere unaware of the scope ference that the Allende gov. vation of democracy in Chile, \$11 million, until the recent electronic media. surfacing of testimony by ClA Director William E. Colby.

testimony, ran from the period anything further would have

of the Kennedy administration to come from the State De-1 Leader Mike Mansfield (D--starting in 1962-to August partment. Stung by recent revelations of last year. A total of \$1 million was authorized for destamilitary coup that toppled the Allende government and led to the death of the Chilean president.

At a closed session of the Relations ations of the Central Intelli- Committee yesterday, Minority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) The committee's inquiry expressed concern over the will go into the question of leakage of a staff report rewhether high-ranking adminis. commending contempt and tration officials may have per perjury investigations of govjured themselves or commit-ernment witnesses, according

A copy of the report, preclandestine role in opposing pared by Jerome Levinson, the election of the late Salva-chief counsel to the Foreign lende government to destroy dor Allende in Chile and then Relations Subcommittee on opposition press and parties. Multinational Carporations, uted.

Sen. Frank Church been set aside but that the full role in Chile "unbelievable"

acting press secretary John W. | quired. The clandestine programs in Hushen said he stood on the

told reporters that President; abroad. bilization of the Allende gov-Ford's statement "speaks for dential allegation.

> journalist Rafael Otera, in an the special programs in Chile. effort to gather evidence to support the President's charge against the Allende government.

White House officials declined to discuss what sort of briefing was provided the It was this charge upon which

Sen. Walter F. Mondale (Dthat the Levinson report has ident's statement on the ClA's committee investigation will and announced he is introducgo into its findings and recoming legislation that would establish a Senate select com-Meanwhile, spokesman for mittee to recommend reforms

"If we are so concerned electronic media. have now been muzzled, ban-lity for activities undertaken
At a White House briefing, ned and jailed?" Mondale in hy the Nixon administration

Mont.) said he intends to call At the State Department for a joint committee to overspokesman Robert Anderson see covert CIA operations

"We have not asked enough Foreign Relations Committee crnment during August, 1973. itself" and that he had noth-questions, we have been too This was a month before the ing to add. At the CIA there prone to take what they tell us was no comment on the presi-on faith and not probe too deeply," Mansfield said. His One State Department pub-proposal was endorsed by Senlic affairs officer lunched yes- ate Foreign Relations Committerday with a member of the tee chairman J. William Ful-Chilean embassy staff, Chi-bright (D-Ark.), who will prelean right wing Radical Party side over the investigation of

Because of Fulbright's close relationship with Kissinger, who presided over the national security council meetings that chartered the program of covert action against Allende, there was some skepticism on President as the basis for his Capitol Hill and elsewhere charge of an effort by the Al- about how far the Foreign Relations Committee inquiry would go. But Fulbright has been one of the Senate's chief Rep. Thomas Morgan (D. ton Post from a Senate office tion of the U.S. covert actions to which it had been distrib. executive mandate targeted against governments, political movements and leaders of Idaho), chairman of the multi- Minn.), in a floor speech yes- which the United States has disapproved.

> Rep. John Anderson (R-III.), chairman of the House Republican Conference, was one of the few congressional Republicans to criticize openly Presiden! Ford's defense of covert operations in Chile against the Allende government.

"I am surprised by President Ford's defense of covert operations," said Anderson. He predicted an outcry and details of the interven-tions, going back over an 11- ago sought to destroy opposi-nel below the democratic land the destroy opposi-help support the democratic land not know why the year period and costing some tion parties, newspapers and politicians and journalists who President assumed responsibil-

Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D.-In addition to the Mondale Minn.), in a television inter-Chile, as covered in the Colby President's statement and that statement, Senate Majority view, called for the termination of covert action.

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